

Amendment dated: December 10, 2003

Application Serial No.: 09/321,743

Attorney Docket No. 23453-009

In Response to Office Action mailed September 11, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. *(Previously Amended)* A system for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports for processing by the OLAP system, comprising:

B (report requesting means for enabling a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

format specification means for enabling the user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

2. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format specification means enables the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

3. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 2 wherein the multiple levels of formats are applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher [lever] level formats.

4. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 3 wherein the levels of formats comprise global formats, report formats, attribute/element/metric formats, and value formats in that hierarchical order.

5. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of one of the workbooks comprises a merged report format.

B^l 6. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of one of the reports comprises a combined grid and graph.

7. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format comprises rules to be applied to the report that the user may specify.

8. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of a report comprises an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

9. *(Previously Amended)* The system of claim 1 wherein the format of a report comprises a scripted format created by a user for specialized formatting of the report.

10. *(Previously Amended)* A method for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports requested for processing by the OLAP system, the method comprising the steps of:

enabling a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

enabling the user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

11. *(original)* The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of enabling the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

12. *(Previously Amended)* The method of claim 11 wherein the multiple levels of formats are to be applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher level formats.

13. *(original)* The method of claim 12 wherein the levels of formats comprise global formats, report formats, attribute/element/metric formats, and value formats in that hierarchical order.

14. *(original)* The method of claim 10 wherein the format of one of the workbooks comprises a merged report format.

15. *(original)* The method of claim 10 wherein the format of one of the reports comprises a combined grid and graph.

16. *(original)* The method of claim 10 wherein the format comprises rules to be applied to the report that the user may specify.

B 17. *(original)* The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of enabling the user to specify the format of a report to be an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

18. *(Previously Amended)* An electronic storage medium having code embodied therein for causing a processing system to enable users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) over a network to specify formatting options for reports requested for processing by the OLAP system, the medium comprising:

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select a workbook comprising one or more reports to be requested for processing by the OLAP system; and

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format for each report in the workbook.

19. *(original)* The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable the user to specify multiple levels of formats to be applied to the reports in the workbook.

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20. (*Previously Amended*) The medium of claim 19 wherein the multiple levels of formats are to be applied in a hierarchical manner so that lower level formats supersede higher level formats.

21. (*original*) The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to select a merged report format.

22. (*original*) The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format of a report to include a combined grid and graph.

23. (*original*) The medium of claim 18 further comprising code for causing a processor to enable a user to select the format of a report to be an autoformat that enables each recipient of the report to specify the format in which that recipient views the report when the report is received.

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24. *(Previously Added)* A system for enabling users connected to an on-line analytical processing (OLAP) system over a network to select formatting options for reports for processing by the OLAP system, comprising:

BI report requesting means for enabling a user to select a workbook for processing by the OLAP system, wherein the workbook comprises a plurality of reports;

format specification means for enabling the user to select a format for each of the plurality of reports comprising the workbook; and

processing means for processing the plurality of reports asynchronously.
